

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE PCT NATIONAL STAGE APPLICATION OF

Art Unit: 1617

Shetty, Suraj Shivappa, et al.

Examiner: Jean-Louis, Samira

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO: PCT/EP2004/011652

FILED: October 15, 2004

U.S. APPLICATION NO: 10/574745

35 USC §371 DATE: April 06, 2006

FOR: Combination of Organic Compounds

**MS: Amendment**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

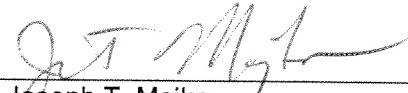
In response to the Restriction Requirement dated September 30, 2008, for which the time to respond has been extended to February 28, 2009, with the enclosed petition for an extension of four months time.

Applicants elect Group I, comprising claims 1-11 and 13-15, for continued examination. Applicants also elect the aldosterone receptor antagonist eplerenone and the diuretic bumetanide. Applicants further elect the presence of the angiotensin receptor blocker valsartan. Claims 1-11 and 13-15 read on the elected species.

An extension of time for four months to respond to the Office Action is respectfully requested. A Petition for Extension of Time and the required fee are being filed concurrently with this Response. Applicants authorize the Commissioner to charge any fees or credit any overpayment related to the filing to this Response to Account No. 19-0134, in the name of Novartis.

Applicants have addressed all of the issues raised in the Restriction Requirement dated September 30, 2008 and respectfully request a Notice of Allowance at the Office's earliest convenience.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: February 2, 2009